

June 4, 2004

HAND DELIVER

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: The Berkshire Gas Company - D.T.E. 04-47

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

Enclosed please find a redacted copy of the Direct Testimony of Karen L. Zink filed in support of the petition of The Berkshire Gas Company (the "Company") in the above-referenced proceeding. Ms. Zink's testimony describes and provides support for the execution of the Gas Portfolio Optimization Agreement and the Gas Sales and Purchase Agreement (the "Agreements") between the Company and BP Energy Company. Ms. Zink's testimony also describes pricing terms and provides actual results for similar agreements previously approved by the Department. Such information is confidential and proprietary. Accordingly, for the reasons stated in the Company's Motion for Protective Treatment of Confidential Information dated April 27, 2004, the Company respectfully requests that the redacted portions of Ms. Zink's direct testimony be accorded confidential or protected treatment.

Consistent with prior proceedings, non-redacted copies of Ms. Zink's testimony are being delivered to the Hearing Officer and to the Attorney General pursuant to an executed confidentiality agreement.

Please call me if you require further assistance with respect to this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

BROWN RUDNICK BERLACK ISRAELS LLP

By: _____
James M. Avery

JMA/cdw
Enclosure

cc: John Geary, Esq. Hearing Officer (w/enc via hand delivery)
George Yiankos, Director, Gas Division (w/4 enc via hand delivery)
Karlen Reed, Esq., Assistant Attorney General (w/enc via hand delivery)
Robert Sydney, Esq., DOER General Counsel (w/redacted enc via hand delivery)
Karen L. Zink, President, COO and Treasurer
William Cronin, Esq.